

apponents. He said heavy losses had been inflicted on the Austro-German forces fighting against the Serbs, whose retreat has been orderly. They had managed to take with them the heavy pieces, which could not be transported across the Albanian mountains.

**Fogs Aided Germans.**  
Several hundred wounded British soldiers have arrived at Thessalonica from the Balkans. They say that weather conditions in southern Serbia had been very bad, with no clear days and almost a continual succession of snow, rain and hail storms. Heavy fogs had enabled the German forces to approach the British position unperceived.

The Bulgarian soldiers, say these wounded, displayed an absolute disregard of life, attacking in close formation and receiving terrible losses from rifle and machine gun fire. The Bulgars used the bayonet freely, even on wounded troops. Numerous instances are told of the wounded being massacred.

An Athens dispatch says there was a drunken brawl of alarming proportions between Austro-German and Bulgarian officers at Uskub. Revolvers were freely used and six men were killed and many wounded. Troops were called out to quell the riot and several Bulgarian officers were arrested.

**Austrians Eject Russ From Trenches; Italian Attacks Are Repulsed**

BERLIN (via wireless to Sayville), Dec. 26.—A report from Austro-Hungarian headquarters asserts that in a night attack the Austro-Hungarian army ejected the Russians from their trenches east of Arad.

An attack made the day before Christmas by the Italian artillery concentrating on the positions at Tete-de-pont and Dolmeir were repulsed together with an effort of an Italian force to advance north of the Altino slope.

**Allied Supply Vessels Sunk and Landing Stages Destroyed by the Turks**

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 26.—Turkish shore batteries sunk enemy supply ships and destroyed landing stages at Telika Burnu, the war office reports.

The official statement also reports the sinking of three enemy batteries at the Dardanelles and the destruction of Anglo-French trenches.

**Allies From Gallipoli Transported to Greece; Landing Is Protested**

BERLIN (via wireless to Sayville), Dec. 26.—Anglo-French troops withdrawn from Gallipoli have been transported to Greece, and an attempt has been made to land them at Kavala, near Saloniki, but the Greek commander protested, according to a Sofia dispatch.

The frontier clash between Bulgarian and Greek troops has been settled satisfactorily, according to Sofia dispatches.

The Bulgarian government has made clear that it desired to maintain friendly relations with Greece, and repeated instructions to Bulgarian troops to avoid any complications. It is stated, the commander of the Greek forces at Leshnitsa, where the incident occurred, admitted in writing that the affair was caused by a Greek mistake.

**BALKAN FRONT QUIET ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

At No Point Were Anglo-French Forces and Bulgars in Contact.

SALONIKI, Dec. 26.—Not one shot was fired along the Balkan front on Christmas day. The faint prodders of aerial scouts of the opposing armies was the only war-like sound along the border.

At no point were the Anglo-French forces and the Bulgars in contact. The recent retirement of the Bulgarian forces to avoid frontier clashes with the Greeks put a strip of land several miles wide between the two armies.

**Boy, 7, Rides 300 Miles To Greet Dad on Xmas**

HUNTINGDON, W. Va., Dec. 26.—The yearning to see "Merry Christmas" to his father brought "Billy" J. Tilley, seven years old, all the way from Bristol, Va. to this city. He arrived yesterday morning after traveling the 300 miles alone.

"I didn't mind coming alone," he told friends, "and I just couldn't stay away from dad when I heard about him falling from a scaffold."

J. G. Tilley, the father, a structural iron worker, is seriously ill in a local hospital as the result of injuries received when he fell while at work last week. The lad came home unknown to his father, and when his son entered the room the father wept from joy.

**London Paper Attacks Asquith Administration**

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Editorials today in the Weekly Dispatch and Observer direct attacks against the Asquith administration. The dispatch demands that a general election be called early in January.

The Observer puts forward David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, as the man who should succeed Premier Asquith. The question is declared to be entirely one of efficiency, and the Asquith administration is charged with procrastination.

**THE WEATHER REPORT.**  
District of Columbia—Fair tonight; Monday partly cloudy with rising temperature, northwest winds.  
Maryland—Fair tonight; Monday partly cloudy with rising temperature.  
Virginia—Fair tonight; Monday partly cloudy with rising temperature.

**TEMPERATURES.**  
U. S. BUREAU. APPLETON'S.  
8 a. m. 34 8 a. m. 35  
9 a. m. 34 9 a. m. 35  
10 a. m. 35 10 a. m. 37  
11 a. m. 35 11 a. m. 37  
12 noon 36 12 noon 38

**SUN TABLE.**  
Sun rose at 7:14 Sun sets at 4:47  
**TIDE TABLE.**  
High tides—11:35 a. m. and 11:21 p. m.  
Low tides—5:38 a. m. and 5:46 p. m.  
Light auto lamps at 5:22 p. m.  
Gude's Home Grown Flowers  
The most expressive holiday greetings you can send. Prompt Delivery 1211 F. St. N. W.

## PENFIELD IS SILENT ON AUSTRIA'S STAND ON ANCONA ISSUES

State Department Has Only Unofficial Advices Concerning Reported Concessions.

MUST DECIDE BY WEEK'S END

Reply Now Said to Be Under Preparation Expected to Suggest Arbitration.

Before the present week ends the United States Government will be forced to decide whether it should stand flatly on the three demands made upon Austria in the Ancona case, or accept partial concessions leading to further negotiation.

This conclusion was forced upon State Department officials today when advised by news dispatches from Vienna that Baron Burián, the Austrian foreign minister, is preparing a reply to the American note, and will hand it to the Ambassador Penfield early this week, and that an offer to submit to arbitration the American demands for disavowal and punishment of the submarine commander will be the essential features of the Austrian reply.

**No Word From Penfield.**  
Secretary of State Lansing had only these unofficial advices as to Austria's intentions to guide him today. No word was received from Ambassador Penfield during the day. In fact, until this morning, the department had not received the demerit Thursday of the receipt of the second American note.

Neither had the department received any official information on the sinking of the Japanese liner Yawaka Maru by an Austrian or German submarine in the Mediterranean channel, although every effort has been made to obtain information from American diplomatic and consular officers since the first news dispatches of this incident were received three days ago.

Intimations received from the German and Austrian embassies in Washington, however, substantiating the statement that Austria will suggest arbitration in replying to the second note have convinced officials that this issue will have to be met.

This has given grounds for the belief that the Austrian reply will be to some extent a conciliatory measure, and one inviting further negotiations. But whether the United States will accept the suggestion in the light of its announced decision "not to debate" the illegality of the Ancona attack is a question of policy that must be decided when the second Austrian reply is received.

**Officials Not Optimistic.**  
One thing was plain in official discussion of the Ancona case today, and that is that officials are inclined to discount the report of a favorable turn of public sentiment in Austria, and the Austrian predictions that a friendly settlement of the Ancona case will follow the receipt by the United States of the second note.

The reason for this pessimistic feeling is that it has been asserted repeatedly in German and Austrian diplomatic circles in Washington during the last few days that Austria will not disavow the sinking of the Ancona. This is the basic demand made by the United States in its two notes.

The Austrian position is that submarine commanders have been operating under general instructions to sink enemy ships. The commanders were not instructed to give warning. Austria, therefore, is said to feel that it cannot consistently disavow its own act since the submarine commander merely was following instructions when he sank the Ancona.

It developed today that Baron Ziwedineck, the Austrian chargé, has been endeavoring to enter into oral discussion with Secretary of State Lansing on the basis of making offers as to Austria's future submarine conduct similarly as Count von Bernstorff delivered the Lusitania negotiations, by presenting such pledges from his government. Secretary Lansing is said to have told the diplomat that the United States must deal directly with the Austrian government and must receive a satisfactory reply to its demands for reparation in the Ancona case.

**Austria Counseled by Berlin to Comply With U. S. Demands, Is Report**

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 26.—Germany counseled Austria to comply with the American demands in the Ancona negotiations, according to Berlin advices. This suggestion has been transmitted to Baron Burián following his request for advice from Berlin, it is stated.

The Berlin press publishes additional comment on the second American note to Austria, agreeing with the Cologne Gazette, which described the note as much more conciliatory than the first and couched in friendly language.

The Tageblatt emphasizes the fact that America has not receded from her original demand, but notes the absence of sharp expressions in the second note and the absence of any time limit that might give it the effect of an ultimatum.

**Austria's Reply Will Suggest Submission to Arbitration Tribunal**

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—The preliminary draft of Austria's reply to the second American note contains the suggestion that important points in dispute regarding the Ancona be submitted to an arbitration tribunal, according to reports received here.

Austria, it is understood, agrees to accept the findings of this arbitration board as to whether she shall disavow the sinking of the Italian liner and punish the submarine commander. This feature is said to have been suggested by the foreign office, but has not yet won the approval of the marine officers.

The Vienna Zeitungs announced today that Baron Burián had begun work on the Austrian reply, and expected to hand it to the American ambassador within a few days.

**Belgian Guns Silence Foes' Works at Vicogne**

HAYRE, Dec. 26.—Belgian batteries on the center and front silenced German works at Vicogne and also demolished enemy trenches and redoubts north of Dixmude, an official statement from the Belgian war office reported.

## Wind Storm Subsides Another on Way Here

Forty-six Mile an Hour Gale This Morning—Intense Cold Wave in Mississippi Valley Circles. Then Darts East—New England Snowbound.

Held in the grip of a storm throughout the night and early today, Washington is due to pass through the throes of still another late tomorrow, according to predictions at the Weather Bureau today.

This morning a violent snow and wind storm, followed by intense cold, was reported in the Mississippi Valley. After slipping the noose of the Southerners, it circled around itself a couple of times and darted East. The local Weather Bureau has the Mississippi storm scheduled to arrive here tomorrow afternoon, before its arrival, however, Washington will have fairly cloudy weather with rising temperature.

**High Winds Prevail.**  
Notwithstanding the sunshine which prevailed all day yesterday, the weather sharps held tenaciously to their prediction that it would rain and about 8 o'clock they began to say so. The heavy rain was borne on the wings of an eight-cylinder northwest wind, which traveled on the high rear. Its average velocity, throughout the night, was thirty-four miles an hour, but it developed speed again about 9 o'clock this morning and skeddaddled along at forty-five-mile-an-hour clip, according to the weather man. The lowest temperature throughout the morning the rain turned into snow and a fall of between one-half and three-quarters of an inch was reported in the District, northern Virginia, and parts of Maryland.

**New England Stormbound.**  
The unusual weather last night and this morning was due to the presence here of the storm which started in Arizona Friday, reached Ohio yesterday morning and traveled from the Buckeye State to the National Capital in ten hours. Today the storm is over New England, heavy falls of snow being reported there and in the interior of New York. In the Empire State the wind attained a velocity of seventy-two miles an hour, causing great snowbanks and impeding railroad and other traffic.

The weather man would make no prediction today for holiday week. All he would say was: "A storm is due to arrive here from Mississippi tomorrow afternoon or evening, and the weather for future days depends largely upon the force and intensity of this storm."

Johnny's bobbed hair came in handy before the end of the week, according to the weather man's hints today.

**Rain, Hail, Snow and Lightning Follow Each Other in New York**

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—This city was treated to a unique storm lasting from midnight to about 10 this morning. Rain, hail, snow, thunder and lightning followed each other and on their heels came a ninety-five-mile-an-hour blow. After midforenoon the clouds broke away, the temperature rose and the wind decreased in velocity. The snow fall which threatened early in the day to tie up traffic disappeared rapidly in slush. Trains coming into New York were late, but not seriously delayed and there were none of the experiences which made the storm of the 11th so disastrous.

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It was strongly rumored that his strictest peace party had not even gone to The Hague and that the principals in the mission, who are solely at loggerheads with one another and divided into score or more of different factions will return to America after spending a few days at Copenhagen.

Color was lent to this report by Mr. Ford's wireless message to the peace delegates from the steamer Biersenford, on which he is returning to New York. Mr. Ford urged the pacifists to "stick together, see it through."

He further said that "if the peace conference is called I will return to Europe and attend it, should I be chosen as a delegate."

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